

In the specification:

Page 9, amend the paragraph in lines 5-20 as follows:

Figure 2 shows a schematical arrangement of a first variant of the casting component group. In the melting device formed as the casting retort 1, the heating means 202 is arranged around the lower narrowing part. The valve unit 3 closes the opening at outlet part of the casting retort 1 to the casting mold 19. After the performed evacuation by the evacuation device 202 the short term opening of the valve unit 3 is performed through the valve control 12 and the valve lock 14. Thereby the liquid metal flows into the casting mold 19. During the expansion of the metal quantity for each part to be cast, because of the metal losses in the casting retort 1, a multiple of the metal quantity of the part is required. After the supply of the liquid metal into the feed system 4 the rigidification process is performed by the withdrawal of the thermal energy through the base support 5 and the automatic withdrawal of the casting mold 19 from the feed system 4. The casting retort 1 inside the casting component group is surrounded by a thermal insulation 6. The available melting temperature is detected by the temperature sensor 7 and the corresponding signal is supplied to the valve control 12.

Page 10, amend the paragraph in lines 1-10 as follows:

Figure 3 shows a second variant of the design of the casting mold and the differential pressure system of the inventive device. In this variant the casting retort 1 has a cylindrical shape. The heating means 2 is arranged around the lower cylindrical part of the casting retort 1. The required heat difference for the rigidification process between the feed system 4 and the casting mold 19 is provided by the thermal insulation 6 and the withdrawal of the casting mold 19 after the supply of the liquid metal. The supply of the protective gas is performed in this variant by a differential pressure system. It is composed of a ~~known-blow~~ storage 21 and a pump system 22 for supply and withdrawal of the protective gas.